REMARKS

Amendments to claims 1 and 19 are to correct grammatical errors. No new matter has been added.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview on December 14, 2005. During the telephonic interview, the Office Action and the cited reference were discussed.

I.   CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,385,724 (Beckman). Applicants respectfully note that in order to sustain a rejection under §102, each element in the rejected claim must be found, either expressly or inherently, in the cited reference.

Claim 1 recites implementing a data object that indicates, before a link is established between the first and second network nodes, whether the domain permits the link between the first and second network nodes without verification of user credentials. Claims 19 and 37 recite similar limitations. Beckman does not disclose or suggest such limitation. According to the Office Action, column 14, lines 43-59 and figure 1 of Beckman allegedly disclose the above limitation. However, the cited passage actually discloses:

> Additionally, an optional feature allows the user to specify a list of trusted identities, as shown in FIG. 11. In the window 570, a pane 572 shows the "trusted identities" label 574 is highlighted, indicating the trusted identities (i.e., the recorder) are shown in the pane 576. The user employs the window 578 to add other trusted identities to the list, which is stored in the catalog.

> The trusted identities are those identities allowed to specify identities other than their own across various security boundaries. The practice of allowing an identity to specify another's identity is sometimes called "transitive trust." In the illustrated embodiment, the trusted identities are permitted to specify others' identities across a method invocation queue. An alternative to using identity to implement transitive trust is to specify a list of trusted processes. Such an arrangement is useful if for some reason the identity cannot be reliably relayed across a boundary.

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Also, as shown in figure 11 of Beckman, a window 578 is provided for allowing "trusted identities" be added, wherein a trusted identity is a user role such as, an administrator, a guest, a member, etc. As such, the disclosed "trusted identities" in Beckman refer to roles associated with trusted users who are allowed to have access to a particular method based on their roles, and are not themselves network nodes. In addition, there is nothing in the cited passage that discloses or suggests the specific data object as described in the claims (i.e., a data object that indicates, before a link is established between the first and second network nodes, whether the domain permits the link between the first and second network nodes without verification of user credentials). For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 19, and 37, and their respective dependent claims, are believed allowable over Beckman.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, all remaining claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. **50-2518**, referencing billing number **7010852004**. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or to charge any underpayment to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. **50-2518**, referencing billing number **7010852004**.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: <u>December 19, 2005</u>   By: _____

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